

New Claims

C. 25. A method for screening ^{for} a ligand capable of interacting with or binding to the intracellular domain of the 26 kDa TNF, comprising contacting an affinity chromatography matrix to which said intracellular domain is attached with a cell extract whereby the ligand, if present in said extract, is bound to said matrix, and eluting, isolating said ligand.

26. A method for screening ^{for} a DNA sequence coding for a ligand capable of interacting with or binding to the intracellular domain of the 26 kDa TNF, comprising applying the yeast two-hybrid procedure in which a sequence encoding said intracellular domain of the 26 kDa TNF is carried by one hybrid vector and sequences from a cDNA or genomic DNA library are carried by the second hybrid vector, transforming yeast host cells with said vectors, isolating the positively transformed cells, and extracting said second hybrid vector to obtain a sequence encoding said ligand.

~~27. A method for identifying and producing a ligand capable of binding to or interacting with the intracellular domain of 26 kDa TNF, comprising:~~

~~a) screening for a ligand capable of binding to said intracellular domain of 26 kDa TNF;~~

~~b) identifying and characterizing said ligand found by said screening step to be capable of said interaction or binding; and~~

~~c) producing said ligand in substantially isolated and purified form.~~

28. A method for identifying and producing a ligand capable of modulating the cellular activity modulated or mediated by the intracellular domain of the 26 kDa TNF, comprising:

a) screening for a ligand capable of binding to or interacting with the intracellular domain of the 26 kDa TNF or at least a portion of the intracellular domain of the 26 kDa TNF;

b) identifying and characterizing said ligand found by said screening step to be capable of said interaction or binding; and

~~c) producing said ligand in substantially isolated and purified form.~~

~~in accordance with claim 28~~

C. 29. A method, for identifying and producing a molecule capable of directly or indirectly modulating the phosphorylation of the intracellular domain of the 26 kDa TNF, comprising:

a) screening for a molecule capable of modulating the phosphorylation of the intracellular domain of the 26 kDa TNF directly or indirectly, by increasing or decreasing the extent of said phosphorylation;

b) identifying and characterizing said molecule; and

c) producing said molecule in substantially isolated and purified form.

~~in accordance with claim 28~~

C 30. A method for identifying and producing a molecule capable of directly or indirectly modulating the release of 17 kDa TNF from the membrane-bound 26 kDa TNF form, said molecule interacting directly or indirectly with said 26 kDa TNF, comprising:

a) screening for a molecule capable of modulating the release of 17 kDa TNF from the membrane-bound 26 kDa TNF by enhancing or interfering with said release of 17 kDa TNF;

b) identifying and characterizing said molecule; and

c) producing said molecule in substantially isolated and purified form.

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